the arbitrament of swords, can try it out with all unspotted soldiers. Some, peradventure, have on them the guilt of premeditated and contrived murder: some, of beguiling virgins with the broken seals of perjury [9]: some, making the wars their bulwark that have before gored the gentle bosom of peace with pillage and robbery. Now, if these men have defeated the law, and outrun native punishment [1] though they can outstrip men, they have no wings to fly from God: war is his beadle, war is his vengeance: so that here men are punished, for before-breach of the king's laws, in now the king's quarrel: where they feared the death, they have borne life away; and where they would be safe, they perish: Then if they die unprovided, no more is the king guilty of their damnation, than he was before guilty of those impieties for the which they are now visited. Every subject's duty[2] is the king's: but every subject's soul is his own. Therefore should every soldier in the wars do as every sick man in his bed, wash every mote [3] out of his and dying so, death is to him advan*

9 — the broken SEALS of PERJURY;] So, in the song at the beginning of the fourth Act of Measure for Measure:

"That so sweetly were forsworn
"Seals of love, but seal'd in vain." STEEVENS.

1 — NATIVE punishment,] That is, punishment in their native country. HEATH.

So, in a subsequent scene:

"A many of our bodies shall, no doubt,
"Find *native* graves." MALONE.

Native punishment is such as they are born to, if they offend, STEEVENS.

* Every subject's duty-] This is a very just distinction, and the whole argument is well followed, and

properly concluded.

IOHNSON.

.3 every MOTE — l Old copy — *moth*. which was only the ancient spelling of *mote.* I have shewn this to be the case, where I have proposed the true reading of a pas>sage in King
See vol. xv. p, 3l£, n» 1.